

What is claimed:

1. A roof rack assembly for transporting articles along a roof of a motor vehicle having an interior portion, said roof rack assembly comprising:

a frame member extending along the roof; and

5 an electronic component secured to said frame member for receiving and transmitting signals to the interior portion of the motor vehicle.

2. A roof rack assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said electronic component is a radio frequency receiver module.

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3. A roof rack assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said electronic component is a radar sensor.

4. A roof rack assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said electronic component is a camera for creating a digitized signal of a space disposed adjacent the motor vehicle.

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5. A roof rack assembly for transporting articles along a roof of a motor vehicle having a plurality of electronic components, said roof rack assembly comprising:

a frame member mounted to the roof, said frame member having an outboard surface;

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a solar panel secured to said outboard surface within for receiving solar energy and converting the solar energy into an electric current.

6. A roof rack assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein said outer surface extends through a plane.

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7. A roof rack assembly as set forth in claim 6 wherein said solar panel extends through said plane.

8. A roof rack assembly as set forth in claim 7 wherein said plane is curved.

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